



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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31 AUGUST 1965

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1. South Vietnam

Premier Ky has warned student and other agitators that his government is prepared to take strong action against antigovernment manifestations.

This, by itself, is not very likely to deter the agitators who will wish to see if Ky is willing to match his words with action.

Meanwhile, the government's talks with the leaders of the montagnard autonomy movement are dragging on, so far without result.

The two sides remain divided by barriers of deep distrust which goes back for many decades.

There are signs that the ruling generals' patience is wearing thin and they have threatened to use force to bring the tribesmen to heel.

Any such action would probably open wide opportunities for Viet Cong exploitation. The embassy is doing its best to head this off.

2. North Vietnam

Details are still coming in on the air activity over North Vietnam this morning.

The picture is not entirely clear, but the North Vietnamese air defense system did apparently track some eight aircraft flying out of Chinese air space into, and six beyond, North Vietnam. The identity of the planes cannot be established. Two were identified by the North Vietnamese as "hostile," the remainder as "unknown."

A US strike was under way over North Vietnam at the time, and the US pilots report no aerial engagements or MIG sightings.

The possibility that this was a North Vietnamese paper exercise or a deliberate deception attempt cannot be discounted on the basis of available information.

3. USSR

Soviet instrumentation ships continue to deploy in support of an upcoming space operation. We do not know what they intend to attempt, but it apparently will occur soon.

One possibility is that the Soviets plan to launch an unmanned spacecraft which will travel around the moon and return to the USSR. Some of the ships are in position to monitor such an operation.

Another possibility is that the space event is to be a dry run for a new type of manned flight later in September.

4. Greece

The King will convene a Crown Council tomorrow--a meeting with former premiers and other political leaders--in a new effort to break the seven-week deadlock.

There are no indications what the council may propose, and there is no guarantee that Constantine will accept the council's advice. It is also unclear whether ex-Premier Papandreou will attend.

Left-wing trade union groups are planning more strikes and demonstrations to support their demands for elections.

5. Cyprus

Makarios is apparently taking steps to complicate the rotation of Turkish troops next month.

The chief United Nations political officer on Cyprus has reported that Makarios will demand the right to inspect Turkish equipment and run identity checks on Turkish personnel. Ankara will probably refuse to accept these conditions.

Turkish Prime Minister Urguplu has recently threatened to bomb and invade the island if Makarios gets completely out of hand.

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6. Singapore

Prime Minister Lee's television diatribe against the US yesterday was probably aimed at shoring up his reputation in Africa and Asia. Last week, Lee went to the other extreme by disclosing that there had been a Communist-Indonesian plot against Singapore.

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7. Kashmir

A major clash of regular forces may be in the offing.

8. Jamaica

Widespread unemployment and poverty in the Negro community were apparently at the root of the outbreaks in Jamaica last weekend. This kind of disturbance might well promote unrest in other islands of the Caribbean.

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